

COUNCIL HOLDS JOINT SESSION

New Fire Wardens and New
School Trustees Elect-
ed Last Night

NO SECOND BALLOTS

Each Successful Candidate Rolls up
Substantial Majorities of Members
of the Two Boards.

Four new school trustees, representing one-third of the membership of the city school board, were elected last night at a joint session of city council, three of the incumbents being defeated and the fourth not being a candidate for re-election. In addition the joint session elected John T. Sweeney a police commissioner from the fourth ward; Courtney Acton, whose term expired, was not placed in nomination; All of the other city officers, whose terms expired, were re-elected without opposition.

The new school trustees are: E. M. Anderson, first ward, Samuel H. Lunt, second ward; Robert M. Colvin third ward; T. Calvert Perry, fourth ward; T. M. Edvin, from second ward, was not a candidate for re-election.

Councilman H. R. Burke nominated E. M. Anderson from first ward, and Councilman Leadbeater nominated W. S. Nicklin, incumbent. The vote: Anderson—Marbury, H. R. Burke, Wattles, Desmond, Bales, Pohl, Harrison, Lawler, Clinton Ballenger, Bryan, Smith, Fitzgerald, Brill, Robinson, Wilkins, 15.

Nicklin: Leadbeater, Brockett, Field 3.

Councilman Desmond, nominated Samuel H. Lunt, as trustee from the second ward and Mr. Lunt was unanimously elected.

Councilman Harrison nominated Harry Hammond, incumbent, from the third ward, and Councilman Bales nominated Robert M. Colvin.

Colvin—Marbury, H. R. Burke, Wattles, Desmond, Bales, Pohl, Lawler, Clinton Ballenger, Bryan, Smith, Fitzgerald, Brill, Robinson, 13.

Hammond—Leadbeater, Brockett, Harrison, Field, Wilkins, 5.

Councilman Bryan nominated T. Calvert Perry from fourth ward and Councilman Brockett nominated J. Frank Myers, incumbent.

Perry—Marbury, H. R. Burke, Wattles, Desmond, Bales, Pohl, Harrison, Lawler, Clinton Ballenger, Bryan, Smith, Fitzgerald, Brill, Robinson, Wilkins, 15.

Myers—Leadbeater, Brockett, Field 3.

Alderman W. W. Ballenger did not vote in the election of any of the school trustees.

Other city officers elected follow: William Craven, steward of offices, nominated by Councilman Marbury; Joshua Sherwood, keeper of the alms house nominated by Councilman Marbury; Robert L. Gronau, chief of the fire department, nominated by Councilman Leadbeater; Henry Callan and Edgar Warfield, Jr., dispensers of medicine for eastern and western districts nominated respectively by Councilmen Marbury and Leadbeater.

Prior to the joint session common council elected Clinton S. Ballenger, member of that branch from the fourth ward to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Charles B. Marshall.

Mr. Ballenger was nominated by Councilman Bryan, and the nomination seconded by Councilman Lawler.

Mr. Ballenger was then sworn in by President Smith and took his seat. He was named by President Smith a member of the street and health committees.

Prior to the joint session Councilman Brockett objected to going into the election of school trustees, and Councilman Harrison said it was always customary to give two weeks notice if there was a vacancy.

Councilman Lawler told Mr. Brockett he was willing to abide by the decision of the majority in the matter, and Mr. Brockett's motion to defer the election of school trustees was defeated by a vote of 10 to 2 after which Mr. Lawler's motion to elect all officers whose terms had expired prevailed.

The sum of \$6,500 to be appropriated as a temporary loan for schools

for the months of September and October went to the finance committee. Councilman Bryan explained the appropriation for schools had not been included in the budget this year and this appropriation was simply a temporary loan to be charged against the schools.

A sub-committee composed of J. R. Caton, W. A. Smoot, Jr., and Carroll Pierce, of Alexandria Hospital building committee, sent a communication asking the city to give two acres of land in George Washington Park as site for new hospital, they having learned that the city is about to acquire this property. The matter was referred to the finance committee.

C. H. Callahan, commissioner of revenue, sent a communication in which he said he could not comply with request of council of July 23, 1915, to assess for taxation for city purposes all land, tangible property, licenses and other subjects of taxation in the annexed territory. Mr. Callahan set forth that he would gladly do so if it were within his power, but added that his duties are clearly defined by the statutes.

Councilman Smith said he and Mr. Bryan had discussed this matter and he presented a resolution to the effect that this question be referred to the finance committee, and this committee be instructed to consult council and take such step as may be necessary to protect the city by suit or otherwise in this matter.

This resolution was adopted, and the paper of Mr. Callahan referred to finance committee.

A petition of Mrs. Sarah M. Baggett that she be reimbursed to the extent of \$2,720.82 for work on Harvard street and sewers in connection with opening up of a subdivision, was referred to the committee on finance and streets. In her petition she set forth that the money for these improvements was expended prior to the annexation proceedings becoming effective.

Board of Aldermen.

Only three papers, and they of a miscellaneous nature, were presented in the Board of Aldermen at the regular meeting last night. The Aldermen concurred in the action of the Common Council upon all papers received from that board.

After all business had been disposed of an invitation was received from the lower board to join them in a joint session for the purpose of electing sundry city officers.

Mr. Ballenger, while ready to participate in the election of some officers, was opposed to electing members of the School Board at this meeting, as sufficient notice, he alleged had not been given. He did not know vacancies in that board were to be filled, as there had been no official notification of that fact. Mr. Ballenger said he was averse to snap judgment and that others should be given a chance who might wish to become candidates. He favored postponing the election of these officers two weeks and made a motion to that effect.

Mr. Robinson failed to see any snap judgment in the procedure. Other people would be candidates for the positions of the trustees whose terms had expired.

Mr. Ballenger said he had heard of none, and reiterated his reason for postponing the election.

Mr. Brill said it was immaterial to him what course was taken, but there would be no snap judgment. He had heard of other candidates who were to offer themselves. Mr. Brill said he would vote to participate in the joint session with no restrictions.

Mr. Ballenger's motion was lost and the Aldermen proceeded to the chamber of the Common Council. Upon their return they adjourned.

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of the late T. A. Groves all persons having bills against the estate of the deceased are requested to present same, duly certified, for payment and all persons owing said estate are requested to settle their indebtedness promptly.

LILLIAN E. GROVES,
Administratrix, 22 Eight St. N. W.
Washington, D. C.

FOR SALE

Four of the most desirable lots in East Braddock, fronting on Alexandria Avenue, between the handsome residences of Mr. J. Y. Williams and J. P. Johansen. Apply to
ROSS T. ELLIOTT
Kenos Bldg., Wash., D. C.

UNITED STATES FIRM ON ARABIC

Von Bernstorff Told Ger-
many Must Disavow
Sinking of Ship

BREAK WAS PROBABLE

Washington Decides to Wait Until
Ambassador Can Forward Evidence
to be Given Him.

Washington, Sept. 15—Prospects for a favorable adjustment of the controversies between the United States and Germany depend entirely on the attitude which the Berlin Foreign Office will take toward the recommendations made today by Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, following his conference yesterday with Secretary Lansing.

Details of the conference have become known, throwing light on the critical point that has been reached in the relations between the two countries. The Washington Government was almost ready to sever diplomatic relations, but decided to delay taking any step until Germany could be furnished the evidence in its possession on the Arabic case.

Friendliness and candor are understood to have characterized the conversation between Mr. Lansing and the Ambassador. The latter now has been given an opportunity to communicate freely with his Government, so that it may be clearly understood in Berlin why officials here are convinced that the torpedoing of the Arabic could not have been a mistake, justified or unjustified.

In view of the evidence the United States wants a disavowal of the act, and this was made clear to Count von Bernstorff. Arbitration cannot be an issue for consideration until the attitude of the German Government toward the act itself is placed on record. Later the American Government may take under consideration a proposal to arbitrate, not the principle, but what indemnity should be paid for lives lost.

Tension has been lessened and there is much more hope in both State Department and German quarters of a friendly adjustment than there had been in several days. Much emphasis was placed on the fact that for the first time since relations became strained informal discussions are proceeding at both Washington and Berlin and the freest opportunity for an exchange of views confidentially and informally has been made possible. In fact, it was predicted in German quarters that understandings might now be reached in advance of the writing of formal notes.

The note from Berlin which brought the situation to a crisis asserted that the submarine torpedoed the Arabic because her commander thought the liner was about to attack him, refused to admit liability for indemnity for American lives lost, even if the commander was mistaken in his belief, and offered to submit the matter to arbitration.

The evidence which has been submitted by the United States is regarded here as proving conclusively that until she submerged to launch the torpedo against the Arabic the German submarine was concealed behind the sinking British steamer Dunsley and could not have been seen by the captain of the Arabic. Furthermore, it is shown that the Arabic was struck in such a way that the submarine must have been at right-angles from her when the torpedo was fired, instead of in a position to make ramming by the liner a possibility.

Ambassador von Bernstorff is understood to have scrutinized this evidence carefully and to have made certain suggestions to his Foreign Office. It probably will be 10 days before a reply can be received. If a disavowal of the submarine commander's act is made, officials here feel that the questions of indemnity then can be left to arbitral tribunals.

Should Germany fail to satisfy the American demand for disavowal, indications are that the Washington Government would follow its original purpose to sever diplomatic relations.

LOCAL BREVITIES

Ross T. Elliott, of the Kenos Building, Washington, is offering for sale four desirable lots in East Braddock.

Miss Cora McDonald, the 19 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bayless McDonald, died last night at the residence of her parents in Del Ray.

The steamer Gratitude has recently been added to the Potomac and Chesapeake Company's fleet and is running on the route between Washington, this port, Colonial Beach and Mattox creek.

Alexandria Council, No. 5, Order of Fraternal Americans, will celebrate its 25th anniversary tomorrow night in Odd Fellows' Hall. The program of exercises will consist of musical and literary features.

Funeral services for Thomas M. Sillex, who died yesterday morning, will take place from his late residence, 111 south West street, tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock and will be conducted by the Rev. W. F. Watson, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

The annual state inspection of the Alexandria Light Infantry officially known as Company G, First Regiment Virginia Volunteers, will take place on Thursday night in Armory Hall. The inspection will be made by Col. Jo Lane Stern, of Richmond, assistant inspector general.

BERLIN HOPEFUL

Believed New German Note to U. S. Will Ease Situation

Berlin, Sept. 15—It is believed here that the Hesperian note will go far toward removing one factor of possible tension in the German-American negotiations regarding submarine warfare. In this note the German government indicates two reasons for its faith that the Hesperian was not torpedoed.

Other reasons, even stronger, exist to which it is difficult to refer, owing to the limitations imposed by the censorship. Attention is given to the doubtfulness of similar incidents occurring again.

The political leaders of Germany express themselves as confident that the possibility for future error or accident with respect to the sinking of liners without warning has been minimized. They hope that the Arabic case may be settled on the basis of Germany's offer to refer the question of reparation to The Hague, and that the difficulties with the United States over the submarine question, if they still exist, may be eliminated by reason of the instructions issued to submarine commanders, which are in clear, well-defined form.

It is pointed out in Berlin that if these instructions are interpreted and considered in connection with the changes which have taken place here and the new spirit prevailing in the quarter most directly interested they are adequate to meet the demands of the United States.

DECLINED TO BE A CORPSE

Spectators See Automobilist Hurdled
Over Telegraph Wires by Train

Vineland, N. J., Sept. 15—Pale and astonished spectators declared yesterday that they saw the form of Thomas Fox, of Willow Grove, sail gracefully though perilous, over the telegraph wires as a Jersey Central train hit his automobile at a crossing this evening. The car was left standing bunch of tangled stuff by the side of the road and the men who saw the smash hurried to pick up the corpse of the owner.

Fox, who was a former Township Committeeman, declined to act the part. He rolled over, brushed the dirt off his trousers, looked up at the telegraph pole and the heap what was once his automobile and said: "I'm not hurt." Nor was he, save for some slight cuts and bruises.

BRYAN AND FORD MEET

Detroit, Sept. 15—Former Secretary Bryan and Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, held a long conference on peace plans here. They declined to give out any statement regarding the result of the conference.

Crabs in all styles at the Hotel Rammel.

HAS ASKED TO 'BE RECALLED

Dumba to Personally Re-
port the American Situa-
tion to Austria

ARRANGING TO LEAVE

Piqued Because His Message to Aus-
trian Foreign Office Became Public
Ahead of Time

Leon, Mass. Sept. 15—The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, Dumba, has announced that he had requested the foreign office to recall him on leave of absence in order that he might make a personal report on the situation in the United States which resulted in a request by the United States government for his recall.

In authorizing the above announcement, Dr. Dumba expressed indignation that the text of his message to the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron von Burian, already had become public without his consent or knowledge.

In view of "of the situation," he said he probably would not make public the statement of his position which he had in mind to give to the American press. He would, however, have something to say through the Austrian press when he reached Vienna.

He declared he had communicated with his government in the only way open to him, and was much embarrassed because his message was known in this country before it reached the only person for whom it was intended.

Dr. Dumba answered that he could not tell exactly when he would leave this country, but arrangements for steamship accommodations were now being made through New York agents. Mrs. Dumba will leave Leon today for Washington, where she plans to stay about a week. Then she will rejoin the Ambassador at New York, and they will sail as soon as possible. Passage will be taken on a Dutch or Norwegian steamer.

"I may say," said Dr. Dumba, "that I have sent this message to our minister for foreign affairs."

"I beg your excellency to recall me on leave of absence for personal report."

"This was a purely official message and now for the first time I authorize its publication. It was sent from the embassy by the only means which I had to communicate with my government, and to my astonishment it has become public. In view of the situation now I think that I will have nothing whatever to say regarding my position to the American press. I will, however, probably have something to say to the public through the Austrian press after I have returned home."

"Agents in New York are arranging reservations for me on a Dutch or Norwegian steamer, but the exact date of my departure has not been determined. I expect that the British government will afford me safe conduct. Mrs. Dumba will go to Washington for a brief stay before meeting me in New York when we will sail."

Copenhagen, Denmark, Sept. 15—According to the Politiken, Dr. Dumba, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador to the United States, will sail on the steamer Frederick, VIII., from New York on September 22 for Copenhagen.

DEATH NOTICE

At an late hour September 14, 1915, CORA McDONALD, the only daughter of Bayless and Lucretia McDonald, departed this life after a long and painful illness at her home in Del Ray, Va.

Day by day we saw her fade and slowly pass away. But in our hearts we often prayed That she might longer stay. Through all pain at times she smiled, And when the angels called her home She smiled farewell to earth.

By her mother and father.
(Washington papers please copy.)

When in Alexandria stop at the Hotel Rammel.

RECAPTURES RAILROAD LINE

Von Buelow Receives Large Reinforce-
ments for Another Drive

Petrograd, Sept. 15—A German cavalry force that reached the Vinnitsa-Petrograd railway has been driven back and the railway line from Dvinsk to Vilna is again in the hands of the Czar, according to dispatches reaching here today.

Air scouts, however, report that the Germans under General von Buelow, have received re-enforcements and that large bodies of infantry are again approaching the railway. The Russians are concentrated in the region west of Sventziny and a big battle is believed imminent along the Dvinsk-Vilna line.

The German attacks against the Dvinsk river positions from Jacobstadt to Dvinsk are increasing in violence. General Ruskay, however, is maintaining his positions and inflicting severe losses on the enemy.

Encouraging progress is being made in Galicia where the forces under General Ivanoff continue to press back the Austrians, taking many prisoners.

Rome, Sept. 15—An Athens telegram to the Idea Nazionale today states that Roumania has ordered mobilization against Austria. The report is not confirmed from any other source.

SINKING OF THE HESPERIAN

Germany Still Believes Steamer
Struck a Mine.

Berlin, Sept. 15—The German government, in a note to Ambassador Gerard, delivered yesterday, made a qualified disclaimer of responsibility for the destruction of the steamer Hesperian. The German position, as semi-officially stated, follows:

"As we are informed from a competent source the news already received, taken in connection with facts only known, seems to exclude almost absolutely the possibility that a German submarine could, under any circumstances, have been concerned in sinking the British passenger steamer Hesperian."

"Firstly: According to the pre-arranged distribution, no German submarine should have been on September 4, in the part of the ocean in which the Hesperian sank."

"Secondly: The explosion, according to descriptions received from British sources, was of such a nature as to indicate from its effects that it was rather of a mine than of a torpedo. The circumstances that, according to these descriptions, the vessel was struck near the bow, and that the low compartments filled with water, goes to confirm this assumption."

The note contains, in addition, a paragraph which states that all the submarines at sea on September 4, have not yet returned, but that there is no reason to expect that reports from them will change the situation."

DISAVOWS PLOTS AGAINST PLAN

Germany Frowns Upon Attacks on
American Munition Plants.

Berlin, Sept. 15—The German government today formally disavowed the action of certain German citizens in attempting to instigate plots for the destruction of American war munitions factories.

"Recently German newspapers have arrived in the United States containing a pamphlet advising readers to destroy American ammunition factories," said an official statement.

"Such a practice is officially designated as stupid and dangerous. It is evident that hot headed private citizens who have been misled, have tried to agitate in this manner by inserting the pamphlets. No newspaper office is responsible."

166 KILLED BY AIRSHIPS

Result of Zeppelin Raids on Eng-
land in Seven Days

London, Sept. 15—The Star says that the total casualties from airship raids during the last seven days amount to 166.

"During this period there have been no fewer than five air raids on England," the Star says. "The first raid of the series took place on Tuesday night, resulting in 56 casualties. The second, in the eastern counties, occurred on the following night, when there were 106 victims. The third and fourth were both futile. Yesterday's attack (with four victims) brings up the total for the five raids to 166."

GET NEARER TO CONSCRIPTION

British Cabinet Now Seri-
ously Considering Its
Expediency

ASQUITH ADMITS IT

Premier, However, Regrets Subject
Has Been Made a Matter of Con-
troversy Prematurely.

London, Sept. 15—Official admission that the cabinet is seriously debating the subject of conscription was made publicly for the first time in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon.

The subject was raised when the motion for adjournment was made. It was brought up by both the opponents and advocates of conscription. Premier Asquith finally arose and announced:

"This is not a matter which has escaped the attention of the government. When the government, without undue delay, and with the due deliberation which the gravity of the subject demands, have arrived at their conclusions they will be presented to the House and will then become the subject of parliamentary discussion."

The Premier expressed regret that the question of the best way, "in which this country shall meet the call to bring the war to a successful conclusion" had become a matter of public controversy. He hoped there would be no further debate on this subject for the present.

Premier Asquith figuratively rapped the knuckles of the officers, members of the House of Commons, who recently returned from the front and signed a memorial urging that the government hasten to adopt conscription. The Premier repudiated any desire to close their lips, but he added that "they ought to feel themselves under the most strict sense of responsibility."

"Let them remember," said the Premier, "that they sit in the Commons not as representatives of the army, but of their constituents. It would be most unjust that because they happen to be in the army, they should pretend to come to the house with any mandate from the army. That would be an evil thing for the army and a bad thing for the Commons. It is a claim I would never admit."

The vote of credit which the Premier will move today will, it is understood, be at £150,000,000 (\$750,000,000) and possibly more. In the House of Lords, Field Marshal Earl Kitchener will review the progress of the war and explain the present state of recruiting.

DISTRESS IN RUSSIA

Thousands of Refugees Pouring Into
Moscow—Immediate Relief
Necessary.

London, Sept. 14—An appeal sent by telegram by a mining engineer who is a resident of Moscow, seeking to obtain funds to relieve the refugees pouring into that city, describes their condition as frightful.

The small English organization maintaining the hospital, according to the dispatch, is feeding 3,000 persons daily, but this charity is totally inadequate.

It is asserted that the authorities are unable to cope with the situation, as they already have taken care of one-third of the total of Russian wounded. It is suggested that a fund be raised in London and turned over to the American consul general.

"The distress is frightful," says the appeal. "Women and children are in their summer clothes. With winter coming. Immediate preparations must be made to provide soup, shelter and warmth."

"The English community is doing its utmost, together with the Princess Bariatsky fund, but this is insufficient to meet the awful distress."

"Moscow already has received one-third of the total wounded, and the authorities are overwhelmed by this tremendous new influx of refugees. Outside assistance is vital to cope with the terrible destitution."